

Sociology of climate change

Academic Year: (2019 / 2020)

Review date: 23/04/2020 09:28:35

Department assigned to the subject: Social Analysis Department

Coordinating teacher: PARDO BUENDIA, MERCEDES

Type: Electives ECTS Credits : 6.0

Year : 4 Semester :

OBJECTIVES

- A) The student will learn about the empirical data and the most current and relevant analysis of scientific research on climate change and its link to social systems, which will enable him or her to develop critical thinking.
- B) He or she will obtain awareness of the societies performance effect (particularly in industrialized societies) on the climate, which will enable the student to develop an ethical commitment.
- C) Then, the student will understand the interrelationship between the environment and humans, patterns of consumption and production, and the current climate evolution, all of which will enable the student to manage information and to recognize the global and the local social phenomena.
- D) The student will learn and apply different types of concrete action against climate change, at individual and national and international level. The student will be able to distinguish between appropriate and less appropriate actions implemented in real life, which will enable the student to develop critical thinking, decision making and problem solving.
- E) The student will learn to synthesize the readings and properly communicate them in writing and oral presentations.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS: PROGRAMME

- A) In the first place, the class focuses on the description of the problem of climate change, based on scientific references (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change IPCC).

LESSON 1. What is Climate Change as a Planetary Global Change?

LESSON 2. Evidences of Climate Change: increase in temperature; melting of the poles; Rising sea levels. Projections of evolution according to different scenarios: 1 strong mitigation; 2 intermediates; 1 with high emissions.

- B) The anthropogenic causes of Climate Change.

LESSON 3. The greenhouse gases.

LESSON 4. The causes: the size of the population; economic activity; the use of energy (fossils: gas, oil, coal, the consumer lifestyle, land use models).

- C) The social impact and consequences of climate change.

LESSON 5. Impacts and consequences for rich countries and for poor countries.

- D) ¿Qué se está haciendo?. Policies to combat climate change

LESSON 6. The Framework Convention on Climate Change of the United Nations. The Kyoto Protocol, The case of Spain. The Paris COP21 agreements. The case of Spain.

LESSON 7. The instruments to combat Climate Change: the Carbon Emission Trading (Carbon Market);

the Joint Implementation Mechanism; the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) The Green Fund. Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change.

E) The awareness of societies on Climate Change.

LESSON 8. Public opinion. Ecological movements and political parties. The universities. Social instruments to fight against Climate Change: Information, Communication, Training, Participation.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND METHODOLOGY

Theory lectures (2 credits ECTS): lectures by the professor about the theoretical content of the course, using the tools that facilitate exposure (transparencies, light cannon), ensuring time for students questions.

Practical lessons in the classroom or computer lab (2 credits ECTS), in the form of exercises linked to the theoretical lectures, to be discussed collectively by teachers and students, using computers, movies, documents, newspaper articles, among others.

Readings (2 ECTS) indicated by the teacher, distinguishing between mandatory and complementary, and done individually by each student. The student will present a brief individual analysis on each of the required readings before each relevant item.

ASSESSMENT SYSTEM

% end-of-term-examination/test:	55
% of continuous assessment (assignments, laboratory, practicals...):	45

Course assessment: (Total 100 points)

- Participating in the discussions of each topic, having read the texts (0-35 points)
- Participating in the analysis of practices (0-10 points)

- Final exam:

To develop a part of a theme of the list of topics, from one of the readings (the student will be allowed to use all the documents during the exam): summary of the main ideas, strengths and weaknesses, analysis, personal assessment, connecting it to the other discussed issues as well as to the practices (0-55 points).

BASIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Christopher Ryan Civilizados hasta la muerte El precio del progreso , Capitan Swing.
- Héctor Tejero, Emilio Santiago ¿Qué hacer en caso de incendio? Manifiesto por el Green New Deal , Capitán Swing, 2019
- Panel Intergubernamental sobre Cambio Climático Cambio Climático. Documento de Síntesis, IPCC http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/assessment-report/ar5/syr/SYR_AR5_FINAL_full_es.pdf, 2014
- Pardo, M.; Rodríguez, M (ed.) Cambio Climático y Pobreza. , Siglo XXI / Fundación Carolina., 2010

BASIC ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

- Agencia Europea de Medio Ambiente . Contenidos sobre Cambio Climático: <http://www.eea.europa.eu/es/themes/climate>
- Environmental Protection Agency de Estados Unidos . Contenidos sobre Cambio Climático : <http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/>
- Ministerio de Agricultura, Alimentación y Medio Ambiente . Contenidos y Estructuras referidas al Cambio Climático: <http://www.magrama.gob.es/es/cambio-climatico/temas/default.aspx>

- Panel Intergubernamental sobre Cambio Climático IPCC . Informes sobre Cambio Climático:
http://www.ipcc.ch/home_languages_main_spanish.shtml#.UZTnsYJZu_U